## An Important Message for the younger residents of the Town of Ramapo presented by Christopher P. St. Lawrence, Supervisor



It's tough! And, if you're under 21, it's just for you.



## New York's Zero Tolerance Law

New York's "Zero Tolerance " Law applies to someone under age 21 who operates a motor vehicle with a <u>blood alcohol concentration</u> (BAC) of .02% or more but not more than .07%. Even though the law is called "zero tolerance," the minimum BAC is .02 and not 0. Some cough syrups and mouthwashes contain alcohol and some families will permit the consumption of small amounts of alcohol as part of religious or family functions. The Legislature set the standard at .02% in order to address only those young people who had consumed alcohol and operated a motor vehicle.

If you are stopped by a police officer for having consumed alcohol and the officer deems that you are younger than 21 and appear to have consumed alcohol, you will be temporarily detained for the purpose of taking a breathalyzer test to determine your blood alcohol level (BAC), usually at the police station. If you refuse to take the test, you will be subject to a <u>license revocation</u> of at least one year.

## Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) and How You May Be Charged

BAC	Offense	Procedures
.02% or more but not more than .07%	Driving after having consumed alcohol (a zero tolerance violation)	Administrative Hearing
more than .05% and less than .10%	Driving while ability is impaired by alcohol (DWAI)	Criminal Court
.10% or more	Driving while intoxicated (DWI)	Criminal Court

"Parties and social events are a big part of the holiday season. It is my hope that our residents stay safe and sober. Enjoy the season. Please don't drink and drive. "

Christopher P. St. Lawrence